

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

Dockets

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

3 NOV 1993

IN REPLY REFER TO:

CN9304146

Honorable Charles E. Grassley
United States Senate
135 Hart Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, DC 20510-1501

93-253

NOV 4 '93

Dear Senator Grassley:

This responds to your letter of September 29, 1993, addressing the 2 GHz Personal Communications Services (PCS) proceeding, GEN Docket No. 90-314. Your constituent, Jim Daubendiek, General Manager of Jefferson Telephone Company, expresses support for a PCS licensing structure that permits rural telephone systems to provide PCS in their own service area. Mr. Daubendiek believes that this can be accomplished through the licensing of a national service area and permitting the development of a system of local operators in a national consortium.

On September 23, 1993, the Commission adopted final rules to govern PCS as well as a Notice of Proposed Rule Making seeking comment on competitive bidding rules proposed to be used to select PCS licensees. The Commission allocated a total of 120 megahertz of spectrum for licensed PCS and permitted telephone companies without cellular interests to aggregate up to 40 megahertz of this spectrum (the maximum authorized any licensee). Telephone companies with cellular interests may acquire 10 megahertz in a PCS service area in which they own twenty or more percent of a cellular company, if the cellular company serves 10 or more percent of the population of the PCS service area. Local exchange carriers are permitted to apply for PCS licenses on the same basis as other applicants, except insofar as they hold interests in cellular operations.

The Commission adopted 492 local service areas based on Basic Trading Areas (BTAs) and 51 regional service areas based on Major Trading Areas (MTAs). The 120 megahertz is divided into two 30 megahertz MTA blocks, one 20 megahertz BTA block, and four 10 megahertz BTA blocks. The Commission did not adopt a national service area for PCS; however, there are no limits on the aggregation of the MTA and BTA service areas. In the companion Notice of Proposed Rule Making, PP Docket No. 93-253, the Commission proposed licensing preferences in one 20 megahertz and one 10 megahertz frequency block for rural telephone companies, small businesses, and businesses owned by minorities and women.

Honorable Charles E. Grassley

2.

The Commission's decisions addressing PCS are designed to foster competition among PCS providers and between PCS providers and cellular radio operators and to ensure expeditious provision of PCS in both urban and rural areas. I am enclosing the press releases for the dockets addressed above that more fully describe the Commission's actions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Bruce Franca".

for Thomas P. Stanley
Chief Engineer

Enclosures

REPLY TO:

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(202) 224-3744
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- ☐ 721 FEDERAL BUILDING
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CEDAR RAPIDS, IA 52401-1227
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United States Senate

CHARLES E. GRASSLEY

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1501

September 29, 1993

REPLY TO:

- ☐ 103 FEDERAL COURTHOUSE BUILDING
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- ☐ 210 WATERLOO BUILDING
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- ☐ 116 FEDERAL BUILDING
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(319) 322-4331
- ☐ 307 FEDERAL BUILDING
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COUNCIL BLUFFS, IA 51501
(712) 322-7103

Lauren Belvin
Director, Legislative Affairs
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W., Room 857
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Lauren:

Enclosed please find a letter from Jim Daubendiek regarding the upcoming ruling on Personal Communications Services.

I understand Mr. Daubendiek recently sent a copy of this letter. I would appreciate any assistance you could provide my constituent pertaining to this matter. Please mark your return correspondence to the attention of Dawn Latham when responding to my office.

Thank you for your attention to my request.

Sincerely,

Charles E. Grassley
Charles E. Grassley
United States Senator

CEG/dl
Enclosure

Committee Assignments:

FINANCE
AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

JUDICIARY
OFFICE OF TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT

BUDGET
SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

JIM DAUBENDIEK
General Manager

AREA CODE 515
Telephone Number 386-2626
FAX Number 386-2600

JEFFERSON TELEPHONE COMPANY

P.O. Box 269
JEFFERSON, IOWA 50129

92 AUG 31 PM 11:05

August 27, 1993

James Quellow, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

RE: Amendment of the Commission's Rules to Establish New
Personal Communications Services, GEN Docket No. 90-314,
ET Docket No. 92-100

Dear Mr. Chairman:

It is our understanding that in a few weeks, the Federal Communications Commission will determine the frequencies and the market structure for personal communications services (PCS). One of the critical decisions the FCC will make is how to implement the goals of the recently enacted auction legislation to prescribe area designations and bandwidth assignments which promote economic opportunity for rural telephone companies and ensure that rural telephone companies are given the opportunity to participate in the provision of new spectrum-based services. The Jefferson Telephone Company is a small telephone company that serves Jefferson, Iowa, and the surrounding area. We have approximately 3,000 customers. We have been serving the communication needs of our customers for over 100 years.

Jefferson Telephone Company supports the right of small rural local telephone companies to provide personal communications services in the same geographic area in which they currently provide local exchange telephone service. Section 99.13 proposed in the Commission's Notice of Proposed Rulemaking and Tentative Decision released on August 14, 1992, in the above-captioned proceeding, would prohibit small local exchange carriers from providing personal communications services in their local exchanges. Jefferson Telephone Company believes that providing the personal communications services by rural telephone companies in the same geographic area where they provide local exchange telephone service is critical to their economic viability and the rapid deployment of new technologies, products and services the public residing in rural areas. Jefferson Telephone Company believes this new technology may be the technology of choice for us

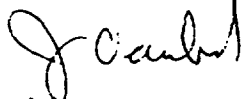
to serve our existing customer base for basic telephone service. If we do not have access to this technology we could be severely handicapped in our continuing ability to serve as a telephone company.

The awarding of a national license to a national consortium consisting of at least 100 companies will help achieve Congress' goal of ensuring the opportunity for rural telephone companies to participate in the provision of new spectrum-based personal communications services. Jefferson Telephone Company supports the eligibility requirements proposed by MCI for such a national PCS license. From an Iowa perspective, a national license awarded to a national consortium consisting of at least 100 companies would ensure the rapid deployment of this new technology to our state's rural areas. Such a national license not only provides for nationwide coverage and compatibility, it provides as well for the economies of scale which will permit the fullest range of features and network functions to be offered at the lowest cost to rural communities.

In order to pursue these goals, Jefferson Telephone Company has joined the MCI national PCS consortium. We believe the consortium approach combined with the national license ensures the realization of the important goals for PCS licensing set forth by Congress in the recently enacted auction legislation and reconciliation package. Our consortium will stress local ownership and management in each market and provides inclusion of small businesses, minority and female-owned businesses as well as rural interests.

A national license for a national consortium consisting of at least 100 companies promises enormous opportunities and rewards. The economic opportunities for rural communities will be significantly enhanced by making it possible for rural telephone companies to offer this new technology in their rural exchanges. We hope that you give our proposals full consideration in your deliberations, as we stand ready to bring innovative, personal communications services to rural America.

Respectfully submitted,



Jim Daubendiek
General Manager

cc: Commissioner Ervin Duggan
Commissioner Andrew Barrett
Thomas Stanley, Chief Engineer, Office
of Engineering and Technology
The Honorable Charles E. Grassley